



Queen's Park,

Toronto,

Report of the Dean of Residence before the Annual Meeting
of the Victoria Women's Residence and Educational Assoc. March 23, 1944.

There are some years in every Association which stand out prominently among others, because of great deeds done, or because of the achievement of some long cherished hope. Such a year has been the one that has just passed, and it is with deep thanksgiving that we look back over it.

A year ago, this building was in process of completion, and in slow process. The strike of the summer suspended most of the work, and with the few workmen available little progress was made. Month rolled by after month, and it looked doubtful whether by October 1st the building could be ready. But it is amazing how much can be done at the last moment. Two weeks before College opened, the Hall was cleaned, the floors ^{were} sanded, there was no furniture, range, or maids, but workmen of every kind invaded it, and three women almost in despair harried it. In without Mrs Burwash's aid, we could not have succeeded in what seemed impossible. Soon, however, dirt began to vanish upstairs, and furniture poured in downstairs, so that and the students' rooms and dining-room assumed a more homelike



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appearance. Of course, on the first floor we still walked among workmen's benches and painters' pots, sat amid dust and shavings, and ~~and~~ listened all day and every day but Sunday to the harmonious sounds of the carpenter's hammer, smelled the sweet perfume of turpentine, oils and paint, and continued to do so for nearly two months after October 1st. Committee still sat considering furnishings, maids still came & went, as they still do, but the Women's Residence of Victoria University was an accomplished fact.

At the end of August there were but six who had taken rooms - a rather blue outlook when over fifty had written for information, and more than eighty letters had been answered. Some letters complained of prices; some predicted an empty Hall; some said, "Better start with fifteen or so, for experiments are easier with a small number, and with this in prospect we waited. But during Exhibition, people came to see the new Residence, parents and daughters, and at the end of it we had over thirty rooms engaged. By Oct. 1st there were but six unlet, and these were filled before November 1st. Every available place had been made into a room, and we turned ten ^{applicants} away.



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With October began other problems. It is not an easy thing to initiate the government of so large a household, to hold together and amalgamate the many different elements we have. Out of fifty-four (for that is our number now) we have forty Indian students, ten varsity students, five music students. Nor is it easy to watch over the health of each ^{girl}, to become acquainted with ~~each~~ ^{her}, to enter into her life ~~and~~ understand her, see her best, and call it forth. There was no precedent to follow, ~~the work is pioneer work~~, and we were doing pioneer work, and trying to make that work of such a character that it would stand the test of the future. These were a few of the difficulties with which we had to contend.

Perhaps it may interest you to know what our rules of government are: -

I Rising bell 6.45; Physical culture 7-7.30. Breakfast 8-8.30
Physical culture 11-11.30. Lunch 1-1.30 Dinner 6.15. Prayers 7.7.30

II House lights are extinguished at 10.30, students' lights at 11.
It is requested that every student on leaving her own room or the bath room extinguish the light.

III. No pins may be put in the walls, or furniture in any way injured.

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and Educational Association**

"The truth shall make you free"

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MRS. (DR.) CARMAN, 1st Vice-President
MRS. (DR.) COURTICE, 2nd Vice-President
MRS. J. W. FLAVELLE, 3rd Vice-President
MRS. (PROF.) BAIN, Rec. Secretary
MRS. HULDAH S. ROCKWELL, Cor. Secretary
MRS. GEO. A. COX, Treasurer

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- IV Students will tidy & dust their own rooms, and make their own beds.
- V Waste paper baskets are supplied, but kindly put all skins & refuse of fruit in a paper that can be removed by the maid.
- VI The telephone is private, but ~~any~~ students may have its use between eight nine A.M. and seven eight P.M. Telephone messages received during the day will be recorded by the parlour maid & delivered.
- VII Prayers. There will be morning & evening prayers after breakfast & dinner respectively. In the morning scripture will be read in the dining-room, the residents will rise at the close of the reading, and repeat the Lord's prayer. In the evening, the students will gather in the Assembly Hall, and will stand until the Dean & Directors are seated. The Dean & Directors, and guests, if any, will precede the students to the Assembly Hall, and at the close of prayers, the students will pass out before the visitors and officers of the hall. Undergraduates are requested to wear their gowns.

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VIII. The east entrance is to be used by students until dinner hour.

IX. Visitors. Students may take their own young lady student friends to their rooms during the morning, if they wish to study; but other visitors should come between three and six. Students may take their girl friends to their rooms in the afternoons, but no visitor not a member of the student's family is permitted to go to a student's room without being personally guided there by the student herself. Formal calling days for the students are 2nd & 4th Friday, gentlemen may call on 2nd & 4th Friday evenings from 7-10. Students may entertain guests at breakfast, lunch & dinner by the payment of .20, .20, & .35 respectively.

X. Residents of Amesley Hall are trusted to go where they desire before dinner. After dinner, the east entrance will be closed & residents will please speak with the Dean or Director of the Household before leaving the building. All are to return before 10.30 except where special permission is granted by the Dean. It is suggested that as far as possible all visiting

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of friends be limited to Saturday so that the early part of the week may be devoted to study.

XI Young ladies may go to the laundry on Saturdays and do such washing and ironing as they please, providing always they leave the laundry in order.

XII. On Sunday evenings there will be service for the young ladies in the Hall, to be withdrawn at the discretion of the Dean. The young ladies may invite their college friends, ladies & gentlemen after church, providing always that a reverent spirit be maintained, and that such calls do not degenerate into a social reception.

XIII. In conclusion, every young lady is asked to conduct herself as a Christian, and a lady, with courtesy to every one in the home, and control over her own self to do those things which are right and true.

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Of our fifty-six students, all but two registered in the gymnasium. The seniors had the option of taking the work. Each of the fifty-four underwent a thorough examination by Dr. Davis and his staff and the doctor decided on the kind of gymnastics required for each ^{one} ~~group~~ ~~body~~. There have been two classes a day, one after breakfast, lately changed to before breakfast and one at eleven o'clock. Almost all avail themselves of the earlier class. Many are much improved in health by their fine vigorous training, and classes & shower baths are both very popular. In the near future, there will probably be something of an exhibition of what has been done during the year.

A word about the rooms and finance. There are 50 students rooms 8 of which are double rooms, forty ~~students~~ single rooms, two single rooms occupied by the Dean & Director. There are 5 maids' rooms, & 4 hospital rooms including the large ward. The average price of single rooms is \$5⁰⁰ per week, of double rooms \$4 per week. Students not registered at Victoria pay \$10⁰⁰ per year more than those so registered. We are often asked whether Summerhall will pay. We do not know. According to the present prospect, it looks as if both ends might meet, but we cannot tell until the end of the year.

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Dear Finally - The best thing we have to tell you is, that two of our residents have found Christ during the year, and others are seeking for greater blessing. The influence of our Senior girls has been all we could desire, and the Y. W. C. A. has been doing splendid work ~~in our hall~~ of us. Very little sickness has invaded our halls, and no serious illness. Our girls are most of them in spite of their hard work, and the usual spring fatigue, ~~are~~ as well as or better than when they came. We rejoice therefore in the ~~measure of~~ ^{blessings} ~~success~~ ^{mercies} that has been ours. It is too soon yet to pronounce our experiment either a success or a failure, or to predict what Amherst Hall will do for its residents in the future, but what we can and do say is "unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, without end."



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